. During George's first attempt at collecting Social Security disability, his lawyer mildly suggested that he file a workers comp claim. I had done some research and found that George's gastritiis condition can be directly related to his ingesting plutonium and americium.

To me it was simple. George ingested plutonium, has a systemic burden of in his bones, kidneys, and lungs, therefore he qualified for workers comp. Were we naive!

Five minutes is not enough to tell all that happened in this claim. If we had known that it was policy not to compensate contaminated workers we would not have wasted our time or the taxpayers money. The claim was for $2200.00. I hate to think of the thousands of dollars that were spent by the insurance company and its customer fighting this claim. The insurance co. did not advise the state of George's claim in twenty days, as required. No lawyer would touch the claim. 25% of the total claim would not cover the voluminous amount of paper work, involved. So we did it alone. George's dr, at first was behind us, but as we neared the hearing date he did an about face. Even though we managed to get Rocky Flats expert witnesses to admit under oath that the gastritis was directly related to ingesting plutonium, that OSHA warns that ingesting plutonium is extremely dangerous, it was not enough to convince the judge. We lost due to preponderance of evidence. We have grounds to reopen the claim because Rocky Flats neglected to supply all materials we requested. George's medical expenses are much higher now. Buy why bother?

When it comes to radiation claims, the workers compensation system in Colorado is stacked against the employee.

Concerning the present legislation before Congress, I have here a sampling of signatures collected from concerned citizens requesting that all workers at all

plants be covered. And that other diseases besides berylliosis and certain cancers be covered. These workers develop a variety of painful and disabling conditions before they succumb to the big C.